Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) A method of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress, comprising contacting the cell with a stanniocalcin polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 247 of SEQ ID NO:2.

~~(a)~~(b) a polypeptide comprising V-34 to A-247 of SEQ ID NO:2;

~~(b)~~(c) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to ~~(a)~~(b), wherein the polypeptide is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~;

~~(c)~~(d) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~;

~~(d)~~(e) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA of ATCC Deposit No. 75652, wherein the fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~;

~~(e)~~(f) a polypeptide comprising an N-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula m-247 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein m is an integer from 2 to 242 and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~;

~~(f)~~(g) a polypeptide comprising a C-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula 1-n of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein n is an integer between 7 to 246 and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~; and

~~(g)~~(h) a polypeptide comprising an N-terminal and C-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula m-n of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein m is an integer

from 2 to 242, n is an integer from 7 to 246, and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (a).

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (b).

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (c).

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (d).

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (e).

22. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (f).

23. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (g).

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to ~~(a)~~(b) and is capable of increasing resistance of a mammalian cell to hypoxic stress~~has stanniocalcin biological activity~~.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is fused to a ~~heterolgous~~ heterologous polypeptide.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the ~~heterolgous~~ heterologous polypeptide comprises a constant domain (Fc) of immunoglobulin or a portion thereof.

27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the heterologous polypeptide comprises albumin.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein albumin comprises human serum albumin.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the cell is a cardiac cell.

31. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein hypoxic stress comprises ischemia.

32-138. (Cancelled)

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein said method is performed *in vitro*.

140. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide is (h).

141. (New) A method of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress, comprising contacting the cell with a stanniocalcin polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide comprising amino acids 1 to 247 of SEQ ID NO:2.

(b) a polypeptide comprising V-34 to A-247 of SEQ ID NO:2;

(c) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to (b), wherein the polypeptide is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress;

(d) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress;

(e) a polypeptide comprising a fragment of the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA of ATCC Deposit No. 75652, wherein the fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress;

(f) a polypeptide comprising an N-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula m-247 of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein m is an integer from 2 to 242 and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress;

(g) a polypeptide comprising a C-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula 1-n of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein n is an integer between 7 to 246 and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress; and

(h) a polypeptide comprising an N-terminal and C-terminal deletion fragment described by the general formula m-n of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein m is an integer from 2 to 242, n is an integer from 7 to 246, and the deletion fragment is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress.

142. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (a).

143. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (b).

144. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (c).

145. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (d).

146. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (e).

147. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (f).

148. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (g).

149. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is (h).

150. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to (b) and is capable of increasing resistance of a neural cell to hypoxic stress.

151. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein the polypeptide is fused to a heterologous polypeptide.

152. (New) The method of claim 151, wherein the heterologous polypeptide comprises a constant domain (Fc) of immunoglobulin or a portion thereof.

153. (New) The method of claim 151, wherein the heterologous polypeptide comprises albumin.

154. (New) The method of claim 153, wherein albumin comprises human serum albumin.

155. (New) The method of claim 141, wherein hypoxic stress comprises ischemia.